<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>

Please amend Claims 1, 2 and 8 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) An image pickup device comprising:

an imaging device;

an instruction unit that instructs the selection of a given chromatic color area on a photography screen;

a storage unit that stores a plurality of correction values which correspond to a plurality of persons' skin colors, respectively, wherein each of the correction values is information about a skin color axis for each of the plurality of different persons' skin colors;

a selection unit that selects one of the plurality of persons' skin colors; and

a white balance processing unit that specifies a color ~~temperature~~ <u>detection range</u> of a ~~light source~~ <u>skin color</u> on the basis of the ~~correction value~~ <u>skin color axis information</u> which is <u>the correction value</u> stored in said storage unit and corresponds to the ~~person~~ <u>person's</u> skin color selected by said selection unit, ~~and an output signal of the imaging device representing a parameter of the selected given chromatic color area,~~ and conducts white balance processing in accordance with a white balance coefficient that corresponds to ~~the specified~~ <u>a</u> color temperature of the light source<u> obtained on the basis of the specified color detection range and an output signal of the imaging device representing a parameter of the selected given chromatic color area.</u>

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2. (Currently Amended) An image pickup device according to claim 1, wherein the white balance processing unit calculates color evaluated values on the basis of the output signal of the image device, and specifies the color ~~temperature~~ detection range of the ~~light source~~ skin color on the basis of a color evaluated value that is judged to be included in a predetermined chromatic color detection area among the calculated color evaluated values.

3. (Previously Presented) An image pickup device according to claim 2, wherein the chromatic color of the predetermined chromatic color detection area is a person's skin color.

4. (Previously Presented) An image pickup device according to claim 3, wherein the chromatic color detection area is generated on the basis of the difference between a color evaluated value of a predetermined skin color which corresponds to the color temperature of the light source and a color evaluated value of an actually photographed person's skin color.

5. (Original) An image pickup device according to claim 1, wherein the instruction unit comprises one of a touch panel and a visual line input.

6. (Previously Presented) An image pickup device according to claim 3, wherein the predetermined chromatic color detection area is selected from a plurality of areas.

7. (Previously Presented) An image pickup device according to claim 6, wherein the predetermined chromatic color detection area is selected on the basis of an input language that is inputted to the image pickup device by a photographer.

8. (Currently Amended) A white balance processing method for an image pickup device, comprising:

instructing a display device that displays an image to select a given chromatic color area of the image on the display device;

storing a plurality of correction values which correspond to a plurality of persons' skin colors respectively, wherein each of the correction values is information about a skin color axis for each of the plurality of different persons' skin colors;

selecting one of the plurality of persons' skin colors; and

specifying a color ~~temperature~~ detection range of a ~~light source~~ skin color on the basis of ~~a correction value~~ the skin color axis information which is the correction value stored in said storing step ~~storage unit~~ and corresponds to the ~~person~~ person's skin color selected in said selecting step~~, and an image signal representing a parameter of the selected given chromatic color area~~; and

conducting white balance processing in accordance with a white balance coefficient that corresponds to ~~the specified~~ a color temperature of the light source obtained on the basis of the specified color detection range and an output signal of an imaging device of the image pickup device representing a parameter of the selected given chromatic color area.

9-10. (Canceled)